



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 142

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 1996

No. 51

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious Father, a year ago at this very hour we were shocked and stunned by the catastrophic bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City. At this sacred moment of remembered grief, we join with millions of people across our land in mourning for the victims, especially the children, of this violent terrorism.

We ask You very specifically for two things this morning. Dear God, bless the families of these victims. Heal their grief and grant them a special sense of Your comfort and strength. May the outpouring of love from all over our Nation be a balm in the raw nerves and the aching wounds of their pain and anguish. And then, Holy Lord, press us forward in our battle against the fanatical forces of organized terrorism.

We thank You for the decisive legislation passed by this Senate. Now we unite our hearts in prayer that You will stay the hand of those who willfully cause suffering through acts of violent destruction. Rise up with mighty indignation, O God, and save our land from this danger. Lord God of Hosts, be with us lest we forget, lest we forget. In the name of our Lord. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator DOLE, is recognized.

### EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

Mr. DOLE. I send a resolution to the desk and ask that its title be read.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Secretary will read the resolution.

The Secretary of the Senate read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 249) expressing the sense of the Senate on the anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing.

Mr. DOLE. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and its preamble be agreed to.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 249) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, the resolution just agreed to expresses the sense of the Senate on this first anniversary of the tragic Oklahoma City bombing that took 168 lives. One of the provisions of the resolution is that the Senate join with the Nation in observing a moment of silence at 9:02 a.m. central daylight time. That moment now having arrived, I invite all Senators to join with me and with the staffs of Senators NICKLES and INHOFE who are in the gallery in observing 168 seconds of silence.

[A period of silence.]

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I now ask that the entire resolution be read.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolution will be read.

The Secretary of the Senate read as follows:

Whereas, on Wednesday, April 19, 1995, at 9:02 a.m. Central Daylight Time, a bomb exploded at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, collapsing the north face of this nine-story building, killing 168 men, women, and children and injuring scores of other innocent victims;

Whereas, today, Friday, April 19, 1996, marks the one-year anniversary of this trag-

ic event which is without equal in our nation's history;

Whereas, in the words of the Reverend Billy Graham to the families and survivors, "Someday the wounds will heal, and someday those who thought they could sew chaos and discord will be brought to justice. The wounds of this tragedy are deep, but the courage and the faith and determination of the people of Oklahoma City are even deeper";

Whereas, this was the deadliest terrorist attack ever on U.S. soil; and

Whereas, the United States Senate passed by an overwhelming margin the Comprehensive Terrorism Prevention Act on Wednesday, April 17, 1996; Now therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the United States:

Observes a moment of silence at 9:02 a.m. Central Daylight Time in remembrance of the innocent children and adults who lost their lives or were injured in this heinous attack one year ago;

Remembers the families, friends, and loved ones of those whose lives were taken away by this abhorrent act;

Salutes the people of Oklahoma for the courage, faith and determination they have exhibited throughout the past year;

Commends the rescuers, federal agencies and countless volunteers who gave of themselves and their resources to provide aid and relief;

Commends the federal employees from across the nation who came to the aid of their co-workers during this crisis; and

Reaffirms its trust in our system of justice to ensure that the perpetrators of this heinous crime be convicted and appropriately punished so that justice may be served and carried out swiftly.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I have long been inspired by the Kansas State motto: "To the Stars Through Difficulties."

The people of Oklahoma have persevered this past year through almost unimaginable difficulties with grace, with grit, and with courage. Our thoughts and prayers will remain with them as they continue to reach for the stars.

(At the request of Mr. DOLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S3695